

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING STANFORD NEWMAN

#### HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Stanford Newman, a man who transformed the Tampa Bay community and the cigar industry during his more than 70 years as head of the J.C. Newman Cigar Co., based in Ybor City.

Son of a Hungarian immigrant, Stanford worked in the family business alongside his father, and then his two sons, and built J.C. Newman Cigar Co. into one of the largest manufacturers and distributors of cigars. The company, which owns Cuesta-Rey and Diamond Crown Cigars, is recognized by cigar aficionados across the globe.

Even at 90 years old, Stanford continued to go to work 5 days a week, serving as chairman of the company. During his tenure, Stanford successfully guided his company through tremendous changes in the cigar industry, most notably, the Cuban embargo, which forced Newman to abandon the use of the Cuban tobacco leaf in their cigars. Not only did Stanford rise to meet this and many other challenges, but he went on to see his business flourish in the 1970s, when his Cuesta-Rey #95 cigar became the largest selling premium cigar in the nation.

Stanford's leadership did not stop at the company doors. He served as President of the Cigar Manufacturers Association of Tampa for more than 20 years and Board member of the Cigar Association of America for more than 56 years. His success and contributions earned him the 2001 Ernst and Young Florida Entrepreneur of the Year title and induction into the Cigar Aficionado's Hall of Fame.

Fortunately for the people of Tampa Bay, Stanford was not just a cornerstone of the cigar industry—he was a cornerstone of our community as well. Stanford dedicated his time, talent, and money to improving this community in countless ways.

He served as board member of the Tampa Chamber of Commerce and Second National Bank of Tampa. Stanford was a member of the board of trustees at Congregation Schaarai Zedek, a longtime member of Tampa's Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow. He was one of the founders of the Ybor City State Museum, treasurer of the Berkeley Preparatory School and president of the Dad's Club. In addition, Stanford served as longtime director of the Latin America Fiesta and was a member of the Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla, as well as a number of Tampa's social organizations.

It is particularly fitting that Stanford continues to serve his fellow man in death as he did in his long, rich life. Stanford donated his liver to a transplant patient upon his passing.

Mr. Speaker, Stanford Newman was an icon in the cigar industry and in Tampa Bay. His contributions to our community's economy and

culture will leave a lasting impression. On behalf of the entire Tampa Bay community, I extend my deepest sympathies to his family.

### TRIBUTE TO KANSAS AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER JIM DEHOFF

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Jim DeHoff, who is retiring after almost 20 years as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Kansas AFL-CIO.

Mr. DeHoff has served as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Kansas AFL-CIO since 1987. Previously, he served as Vice-President of the Kansas State Pipetrades Association, and served on the Lawrence Central Labor Council and the State of Kansas Apprenticeship Council.

Throughout his career, Mr. DeHoff was committed to the working families of Kansas, and to providing them with a safer workplace, job opportunities and health care.

In recent years, Mr. DeHoff worked tirelessly to unite all working men and women and to resolve some of the divisions among various labor organizations.

Working families in Kansas owe much to Jim DeHoff for the opportunities and benefits they now enjoy. All of Kansas is a better place to live and work thanks to the efforts of men like Jim.

I wish Jim the very best in a retirement well earned and deserved.

### IN HONOR OF VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF BOB BROOKS

#### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend, Bob Brooks, Sheriff of Ventura County, California.

Sheriff Brooks will be honored this Saturday at the Southeast Ventura County YMCA Leadership Award Banquet. The theme for the evening is "Touching Lives, Creating Peaceful Communities." They couldn't have picked a better theme with which to honor Bob Brooks. He is a dedicated husband and father, professional law enforcement executive, and community leader.

Bob Brooks is a 45-year resident of Ventura County and a 33-year veteran of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department. He has served as the county's elected sheriff since June 27, 1998.

Under his guidance, Ventura County is routinely rated one of the safest counties in the United States, despite the challenges of a

growing gang presence in some parts of the county and the ever-present threat of terrorism. He oversees 1,200 sworn and civilian employees, 2,000 volunteers, and a budget of \$187 million.

Bob's success comes partly from a supportive community of 800,000 people, but also from his own dedication to law enforcement.

Having already earned a bachelor's degree in Public Administration and a master's in Organizational Management, Bob is now pursuing a master's in Homeland Security from the Naval Post Graduate School. He is also a graduate of the National Sheriff's Institute, the National Executive Institute, and the P.O.S.T. Command College, where he graduated with distinction.

Because of his knowledge, experience, and success, Bob is in demand as a speaker at symposiums and seminars, has taught at colleges and universities, and has published articles in law enforcement, Department of Defense, and educational publications.

In his spare time, he serves on the Board of Directors of several professional, educational, and charitable organizations, including the YMCA, past president of the Ventura County Boy Scouts of America, and Executive Board memberships for the California State Sheriffs' Association and the Major County Sheriffs' Association.

Sheriff Brooks is also an honorary Rotarian and attends Sunrise Christian Fellowship. Bob and Debbie have been married 36 years and have two grown sons. In keeping with Bob's example of serving his community, Jeff is employed by the Ventura Police Department and Brian by the County of Ventura.

"Touching Lives, Creating Peaceful Communities." That's Bob Brooks. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ventura County Sheriff Bob Brooks on this most deserved honor.

### TRIBUTE TO JOHN B. DEAN

#### HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge John B. Dean, Chief of Police of the Waterford Police Department, upon his retirement from a distinguished career in public service.

From a young age, Chief Dean dedicated his life to protecting the citizens of Michigan. At age 15, he enrolled as a cadet in the Waterford Police Department before enlisting in the United States Marine Corps. Following his military service, Chief Dean first joined the Detroit Police Department before returning to Waterford in 1975, where he continued his career in law enforcement. Over the next three decades, Chief Dean advanced through the ranks of the Waterford Police Department, eventually serving as a Patrol Officer, Undercover Officer, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Youth Liaison Officer, Patrol Lieutenant,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and Detective Bureau Commander. In January of 2000, he was promoted to Chief of Police.

A Central Michigan University alumnus and graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy, Chief Dean also served on the Police and Fire Pension Board of Waterford Township, Board of Directors of the Boy Scouts of America, Board of Directors of the Oakland County Chiefs of Police, the State Police Advisory Board, and as Treasurer of the Michigan Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems. For his tireless service to the community, Chief Dean has been recognized with the Officer of the Year Award; the Medal for Bravery; the Meritorious Service Award; and was named Waterford Employee of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, for 31 years, Chief John B. Dean has unwaveringly upheld his oath to protect and defend the citizens of Michigan. As he enters the next phase of his life, he leaves behind a legacy of dedication, honor, and courage. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief Dean upon his retirement and recognizing his years of loyal service to our community and our country.

#### TRIBUTE TO GERALDINE BARNES

##### HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Geraldine Barnes, a tireless activist in the West Tampa community, who lost her battle with colon cancer last month.

A Middleton High School and Hillsborough Community College graduate, Geraldine dedicated her life to helping improve her community. She worked for Hillsborough County as a community organization specialist for 36 years, served on the Tampa Housing Authority board for more than a decade, helped initiate the West Tampa Community Development Corp. to drive the rehabilitation of West Tampa, and worked at the West Tampa Neighborhood Service Center, providing services to low-income residents.

Young or old, Geraldine served anyone in need, always with a focus on strengthening her community, improving opportunities for its residents and giving the people of West Tampa a voice. Even throughout her struggle with cancer, Geraldine continued to volunteer her time and her strength.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Geraldine Barnes, not only for her tireless efforts on our behalf, but also for the example she has set for all of us to follow. On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I extend my deepest sympathies to Geraldine's family.

#### THE PRAIRIE ROSE CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION SALUTES CONSTITUTION WEEK

##### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, the week of September 17–23 has been officially designated as Constitution Week. This marks

the 219th anniversary of the signing of our Constitution.

The guardian of our liberties, our Constitution established our republic as a self-governing nation dedicated to rule by law. This document is the cornerstone of our freedom. It was written to protect every American from the abuse of power by government. Without that restraint, our founders believed the republic would perish.

The ideals upon which our Constitution is based are reinforced each day by the success of our political system to which it gave birth. The success of our way of government requires an enlightened citizenry.

Constitution Week provides an opportunity for all Americans to recall the achievements of our founders, the nature of limited government, and the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. It provides us the opportunity to be better informed about our rights, freedoms and duties as citizens.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I particularly want to take note of the outstanding work of the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is actively involved in the Third Congressional District in events this week commemorating Constitution Week. The Prairie Rose Chapter has been involved with this effort in our communities for a number of years and I commend them for doing so.

Our Constitution has served us well for over 200 years, but it will continue as a strong, vibrant, and vitafoundation for freedom only so long as the American people remain dedicated to the basic principles on which it rests. Thus, as the United States continues into its third century of constitutional democracy, let us renew our commitment to, in the words of our Constitution's preamble: "form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity. . . ." I know that the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution joins with me in urging all Americans to renew their commitment to, and understanding of, our Constitution, particularly during our current time of crisis, when Americans are fighting overseas to defend our liberties here at home.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to make the following rollcall votes on September 7, 2006:

H. Res. 981, Providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 503) to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption (rollcall vote 430). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On Agreeing to the Goodlatte of Virginia Amendment to H.R. 503 (rollcall vote 431). Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Agreeing to the King of Iowa Amendment to H.R. 503 (rollcall vote 432). Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

H.R. 503, On Passage of the Horse Protection Act (rollcall vote 433). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 5122, On Motion to Instruct Conferees on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (rollcall vote 434). Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

H.R. 5122, On Closing Portions of the Conference P National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (rollcall vote 435). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### TRIBUTE TO JUSTO "BILL" NORIEGA

##### HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Justo "Bill" Noriega, of Brandon, Florida, a pharmacist and family businessman who dedicated his life to helping his customers and his community.

Born in Ybor City, Bill earned his pharmacy degree at the University of Florida, graduating with high honors. Bill set up shop in the heart of Brandon, founding Bill's Prescription Center 50 years ago and working there until his cancer forced him to stay home.

Even in the face of growing competition, Bill's Prescription Center continues to be one of Brandon's longest-operating family businesses because of Bill's dedication to his customers. Bill took time with everyone who walked through his door—carefully listening to their concerns and patiently answering their questions—and he was known for helping patients who were unable to pay for their prescriptions. Always a servant to the community, Bill made sure his business continued delivering medicines to homebound customers, and his generosity extended beyond the pharmacy doors through his support of numerous community organizations.

On behalf of the entire Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the Noriega family. Bill was a role model for all of us, and I know that under his son John's watch, Bill's legacy of service will continue at Bill's Prescription Center.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, September 12, 2006, the House had a vote on rollcall 437, H. Res. 175, recognizing the importance of establishing a national memorial at the World Trade Center site to commemorate and mourn the events of February 26, 1993, and September 11, 2001. I would have voted "yea."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 13, 2006, I had to tend to some family

matters and thus missed rollcall votes Nos. 370, 371, 372, 373 and 374. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all votes.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JULIA CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to record my rollcall votes 436 and 437. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on votes: roll No. 436 and roll No. 437.

IN HONOR OF SANTA CRUZ  
COUNTY DOMINICAN HOSPITAL

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dominican Hospital on 65 years of high quality, passionate, and kindhearted healthcare in Santa Cruz County. Created by six Dominican Sisters from Adrian, Michigan, the Catholic hospital was duly named "Sisters Hospital." Today, the hospital continues to approach the healthcare needs of the region by partnering faith with scientific innovations.

Since its inception in 1941, "Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital" has consistently delivered comprehensive and modern medical care for the county. Part of the compassionate mission of Dominican Hospital is to "improve the health of the people of the greater Santa Cruz area, without distinguishing by race, creed, or source of payment . . ." The hospital is known for partnering with other healthcare providers in order to improve the quality of life for those who are less fortunate.

In 1951, "Sisters Hospital" became aware of the ever growing needs within the community for a comprehensive healthcare institution. Due to this realization, the hospital decided to expand its services and obtain a new location. The hospital acquired its Soquel Avenue location and renamed itself, Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital.

In 1984, Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital, in a partnership with the County of Santa Cruz, agreed to provide the first inpatient mental health services program in the county. This was in response to the ever growing needs the hospital saw emerging within the community. Dominican Hospital, time and time again, proves its love for the community by constantly evaluating and reacting to the needs of the people, and I am very grateful to them.

The hospital again expanded its services in 1988. It introduced the county to its first cardiac program. It also created Dominican Oaks, an assisted and independent living community, providing 206 residents with comprehensive medical support. Dominican also joined forces with Catholic Healthcare West, a hospital system of similar values and visions with locations throughout California, Arizona, and Nevada.

Dominican Hospital now serves about 150,000 patients annually, has birthed over 75,000 children, and currently counts 379

beds on two campuses. The medical specialties available at the hospital are numerous. They include, but are not limited to, complete Emergency Services, a renowned Intensive Care Service, the only Level 2 and Level 3 Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery in the county, Behavioral Health Services, and an array of outreach services, and educational options focusing on community needs and health prevention.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, during an absence yesterday, I regrettably missed rollcall votes 436–437. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall No. 436: "yea" and rollcall No. 437: "yea."

#### AMERICAN HORSE SLAUGHTER PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 2006*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 503) to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes:

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Chairman, sometimes in the House of Representatives, we debate and vote on emotional issues. H.R. 503 is certainly one of those issues, and I understand that those who support it hold strong opinions. Having grown up working on a farm and both owning and riding a horse, I do not relish the idea of them being processed for meat. It is something I personally do not care to do.

But this bill is not about whether we are a Nation of horse lovers. It is a bill about whether we are a Nation of freedom lovers. We are presented with a simple question of freedom, namely: will we grant the Federal Government the power to tell livestock owners and family farmers what they can do with their livestock?

Freedom in America often means having to tolerate actions to which we are personally opposed. To protect our freedoms we must first respect our neighbor's freedoms. For instance, I personally abhor smoking and wish every tobacco company in the country would find something else to do or cease to exist. But I will not support legislation outlawing the production and marketing of tobacco products, and I will not support legislation outlawing the use of tobacco products as long as such use does not infringe on my rights or those of my fellow citizens. I would vigorously fight efforts on this floor to regulate them out of business or prohibit them from operating in the United States. I believe there is an extremely high standard that must be met before we restrict

the historic freedoms of our fellow citizens. This bill does not even come close to meeting that test.

Those in favor of this bill make a number of arguments as to why we must ban the processing of horses. Though on the surface some of these arguments may be compelling, noticeably absent from any of them is a scientific, health, or safety argument. In fact, the primary reason that proponents of H.R. 503 offer is that we should not process horses simply because, well, they are horses. Clearly, this argument is anything but scientific, and I suspect the cattle in America may be upset with the prejudice.

Some supporters of this bill argue that we must give special protection to the horse because of its prominent place in the heritage of the American West. Well, do not cattle have an even greater place in the heritage of the American West? Yet we use that animal to protect our feet with shoes and nourish us with beef. How is the horse different? Also, I note that those who we celebrate in the history of the West were known as cowboys, not horseboys. Again, how is the horse different? I further note the lobster has a prominent place in the heritage and history of Maine, but I doubt that people of that state would argue that we should stop harvesting it commercially because of its legacy.

Proponents of H.R. 503 will try to convince us that owners who sell their horses in auctions unknowingly sell them to representatives of the processing facilities, with no knowledge that the horse would be processed. Common sense tells me that if these sellers don't want their horses sold for processing, they would not sell them at high bidder auctions. But, if this is indeed a serious problem, Congress could simply pass legislation requiring that horse auctions make all sellers aware that their animals could potentially be bought for processing. Simple disclosure laws will render that argument moot.

Some will claim that horse processing needs to be banned because the horses suffer during transport and the slaughter process and others will claim that horse processing encourages horse thievery. The former is not based in fact. With respect to the latter, just because cattle rustling has been around since the birth of the Republic does not mean we should outlaw the processing of cattle. The same is true of horses. Current federal laws require that horses must be transported and processed humanely, just like cattle. Both of these arguments raise the issue of enforcement. Thus, the solution is to enforce current federal law, not pass a new, draconian one.

While proponents of H.R. 503 have many arguments about why this process needs to be banned, they remain silent about the unintended consequences of this bill. I believe chief among those unintended consequences is that horse owners will not have a humane option to dispose of a horse that is either unwanted or unable to be cared for. In 2005, around 90,000 horses were processed in the U.S. If there was another viable option for these horses, clearly they would not have been sent to the processing facility. This is particularly true for a number of struggling family farmers. If this bill were to become law, it would mean that when a working horse is at the end of its useful life, it will turn into a liability instead of an asset for the family farmer. No one should come to this floor bemoaning

the plight of the family farmer and vote for this bill.

Another unintended consequence is the precedent that we set by prohibiting the processing of livestock for any compelling reason other than we don't think it should be processed. This is a slippery slope issue. As a Congressman who represents a district where—in some counties—the cattle overwhelmingly outnumber the people and more importantly provide a living for many of my constituents, I am particularly fearful that one day a similar movement will make the argument that cattle are no longer appropriate for processing for human consumption. While it may seem far fetched, with passage of H.R. 503, we will have set a precedent that it is permissible for Congress to ban the processing of livestock for non-scientific and non-health reasons, providing those who wish to ban the processing of cattle a legal leg to stand on with either Congress or the Courts.

However, my opposition to H.R. 503 does not mean that I am not mindful of the concerns of those who live near a horse processing plant. In fact, I am extremely mindful of these people because some of them are my constituents, as I have the privilege and honor of representing the people of the City of Kaufman in Congress, which is home to one of the three horse processing plants. I believe that most of my constituents in Kaufman who are in favor of H.R. 503 are in favor, not so much because they believe Congress should criminalize horse processing, but because it means a plant in their backyard that they do not like will be closed. Many believe it is a public nuisance and a strain on the city's infrastructure. I certainly understand those reasons for supporting H.R. 503 more than those offered by Members who do not have one of these plants in their district. However, those reasons fall under the purview of local government, not the federal government.

That is why I am respectful of the decision made by the City of Kaufman and its zoning commission to order the plant closed due to it being a public health hazard. However, I do not believe that Congress should be exercising its authority and infringing upon freedom by passing H.R. 503, simply because of the City of Kaufman's bad experience with the horse processing plant. There might be a community out there that would welcome a horse processing plant and the jobs it could bring, even with the potential negative aspects associated with such a facility. Passing H.R. 503 would take the decision as to whether or not to allow a horse processing facility away from local, elected officials, and keep a local community from welcoming a plant and its jobs.

There is no doubt that a horse is a wonderful animal. For those who do not wish to process a horse, no one is forcing them to do so. In the end, I believe that it is more important to protect the freedom of livestock owners to humanely decide the fate of their livestock than it is to surrender to emotion and ban the processing of horses. This is America. We should love horses but we should love freedom even more.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. COLE

### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Robert L. Cole upon his retirement as the president of Peoples State Bank located in Madison Heights, Michigan.

Bob Cole has served as president of the Peoples State Bank for 10 years during which time this community bank grew from \$202 million in assets and 5 branches into a vibrant financial institution with \$500 million in assets and 12 branches in the southeast Michigan area.

Under Mr. Cole's leadership, the bank has played a major role in the local community. When a fire destroyed the municipal garage of Madison Heights in 2003, the bank donated \$5,000 for a portion of the destroyed equipment. The bank extended loans to non-profit organizations in the Detroit area assisting young people to obtain marketable work skills, provided loans to a non-profit community organization for building improvements to its Head Start program as well as donated over \$100,000 to various organizations that support affordable housing, low-income health care, food banks, homeless shelters, and small business development centers.

Bob Cole's career tracks the development of community banking in Michigan. Born in Howell, Michigan, and raised on a family farm, he graduated from Western Michigan and went to work as a banker in Fenton. In 1974, he became president of the First National Bank of Fenton. In 1987, he became president of the State Bank of Fenton and took it from \$62 million in assets to \$225 million. In 1996, he joined Peoples State Bank as president and CEO. In that role he modernized the institution, grew the bank into new communities, at the same time deepening the commitment of Peoples to serve the ethnic and small business markets of the Detroit Metropolitan area.

Bob Cole was attracted to community banking because of his strong sense of community. His involvement includes: past president of the Fenton Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, board of governors of the Fenton Community Center, Fenton Community Foundation, Madison Heights and Hazel Park Chambers of Commerce, past president and board member of the Michigan County Bankers, member of the Michigan Association of Community Bankers, and the Michigan Bankers Association. He is a recipient of the City of Fenton "Man of the Year" award.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of the 12th Congressional District have benefited from the leadership of Bob Cole in the field of community banking and I rise to pay tribute to his career and wish him good health and much happiness in his retirement.

#### HONORING FATHER JOSEPH WEITENSTEINER

### HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Joseph

Weitensteiner in honor of his retirement after almost 50 years of service to the Morning Star Boys Ranch. Through his dedication to the Morning Star Boys Ranch, and the greater Spokane community, nearly 1,300 boys have benefited from the care and oversight he has given them through the services offered by the ranch.

Father Weitensteiner's career began in 1957 when he became the ranch's first counselor. After completing studies for the priesthood, Father Joe was ordained on May 14, 1966, and was soon named Morning Star director. As director of the Morning Star Boys Ranch, many recognized Father Joe as the reason why the ranch has earned an excellent reputation for turning around the lives of hundreds of young men.

Throughout his five decades of service, Father Joe has not only been recognized for his leadership by his colleagues and Morning Star alumni, but has also been honored by numerous civic, educational, legal, and child care entities.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Father Joseph Weitensteiner for his leadership in our community and to thank him for the significant role he has played in mentoring and leading the many young men who have lived at the Morning Star Boys Ranch. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Father Joe as he celebrates nearly 50 years of exceptional service to our community.

#### HONORING JEFFREY MESTON

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise with pleasure today to honor Jeffrey Meston, one of our community's heroes. He is retiring as Chief of the Fire District in Novato, California, where his service to both the department and community has been an inspiration to all who worked with him.

Jeff started his career in 1976, working 10 years in Corte Madera and 20 in Novato. He became Chief of the Novato Fire District in 1999. His commitment to the community, to professional excellence, and to all firefighters is evident in his work. Locally, he has been president of the Marin County Fire Chief's Association and the Rotary Club of Ignacio as well as Treasurer of the Novato Chamber of Commerce. On the State level he serves as the chair of the Legislative Task Force and an Area Director for the Fire Districts Association of California and the Training Section Chief for the California Fire Chiefs Association. He is also nationally recognized as a course developer and speaker.

If you could hear him speak, as I have, you would understand why he is in high demand. In November, 2003, Jeff organized a moving memorial service for one of his own, Steve Rucker, a Novato firefighter killed battling wildfires in Southern California. He then related how he had taken Steve under his wing and added, "Steve was probably the most genuine, decent and straightforward human being I've ever known. There were never any hidden agendas with Steve—qualities which made him easy to tease, but easy to love like a brother . . . I never knew anyone who wanted to be a firefighter as much as Steve. Steve lived and breathed his dream."

After Rucker's death, which may have been caused by lack of communication with State firefighters, Jeff advocated for better systems to prevent such tragedies in the future. "Rarely a day goes by when we don't think of him (Steve)," he says.

One of Jeff's proudest accomplishments is the development of a new operating culture called "Novato Way" which asks district personnel to go out of their way to provide superior customer service, from rescuing cats to passing the hat for a resident in need of a boost. The department gives back to the community in many ways and enjoys broad support in return.

Jeff holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration, is a State Certified Fire Chief, and has completed his Chief Fire Officer Designation by the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He also helped Fireman's Fund Insurance Company craft its Fireman's Fund Heritage program which awards millions of dollars in grants to fire departments and fire and burn prevention organizations across the country each year. Jeff continues his involvement, serving on the Heritage Advisory Committee, along with other national leaders in the fire service, to provide strategic guidance for the program.

Mr. Speaker, Jeff Meston says he plans to travel in retirement—and write a fire science textbook. His experience will make the textbook an important resource, and his deep appreciation for the job our firefighters do will make it invaluable. Jeff is definitely one of my heroes.

#### INTRODUCING A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE COURTS OF THE UNITED STATES

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce a Concurrent Resolution recognizing the independence of the courts of the United States, which I authored in response to recent "court-stripping" bills such as the Pledge Protection Act and the Marriage Protection Act of 2004. These bills threaten the foundation of American government by stifling productive discussion of social issues and undermining our system of checks and balances.

As explained in the resolution, the function of the Judiciary is to review the constitutionality of laws. It is thus undemocratic and blatantly partisan to use a procedural trick to protect certain legislation from being questioned in court. Not only does this indirectly violate the Constitution by devaluing the Judicial Branch, it also renders the entire document meaningless since constitutionality is no longer a standard by which all laws must be judged.

Moreover, as courts become functionally irrelevant when faced with certain Acts of Congress, minorities have no recourse and cannot challenge oppressive laws. The view endorsed by "court-stripping"—that a legislative vote constitutes the whole of American democracy—is myopic because it ignores that the Constitution guarantees certain rights to all, regardless of the whims of the majority. These

rights must be protected by the Judiciary. I am sure my colleagues agree with me that the popular choice is not always the right one, and that a Congressional majority is not the arbiter of universal truth.

Discrepancies between Acts of Congress and the Constitution can always exist, so a body is necessary to adjudicate conflicts between the two sets of laws. Because courts fill this vital role and maintain American democracy, I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO RABBI SOLOMON SCHIFF OF MIAMI

#### HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Rabbi Solomon Schiff who, after more than 40 years of public service, interfaith cooperation and community achievement will be retiring from his leadership positions with the Greater Miami Jewish Federation.

By any standard, Rabbi Schiff has had a remarkable career. He has served as Executive Vice President of the Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami for 42 years and as Director of Chaplaincy for the Greater Miami Jewish Federation.

He has served as Chairman of the Dade County Community Relations Board, as President of the National Association of Jewish Chaplains and as Director of Chaplaincy for Mount Sinai Medical Center.

Throughout his career, Rabbi Schiff has been honored for his dedication and community leadership. He has been awarded the Distinguished Community Leadership Service Award from the National Conference of Community and Justice and the Peacemaker Award from St. Thomas University. Rabbi Schiff received these awards for his efforts to develop an open dialogue between the Christian and Jewish communities in the Miami area. Rabbi Schiff was recognized as the "2005 Man of the Year" by the Men's Club of Douglas Gardens and has received a Special Recognition from the Founders of the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged at Douglas Gardens.

Rabbi Schiff also has made great contributions to the community through his service. He was appointed by President George H.W. Bush in 1992 to serve on the "We Will Rebuild Committee." This committee helped restore the areas in South Florida that were severely damaged by Hurricane Andrew. Lawton Chiles, the late Governor of Florida, appointed Rabbi Schiff to serve on a task force to study the problem of homelessness in Miami. Thanks to that task force, two new homeless assistance centers were created in Miami-Dade County. More recently, Florida Governor Jeb Bush appointed him to the Governor's Faith-Based Advisory Board.

Rabbi Schiff also has served as a guest chaplain for the United States Senate in July of 1999 and for the United States House of Representatives on several occasions.

We pay tribute to him for his service and thank his wife, Shirley, his three grown sons, Elliot, Jeffrey and Steven, and their seven grandchildren for sharing him with a grateful

community. Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Schiff has set a high standard of service for us all. I wish him happiness and success in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM OSKAR GOGGINS

#### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William Oskar Goggins for the kindness and influence he showed the world during his 43 years here.

Billy was born at St Mary's Hospital in San Francisco, CA on Sunday, May 10, 1963—on Mother's Day. He was the first child of Patrick & Ute Goggins, both very well-known and respected individuals in the Bay Area and beyond.

From the hospital he was carried right into a civil rights demonstration in Golden Gate Park. Billy took his first trip to Ireland at 4 years old to meet his family relatives in the west of Ireland in County Mayo. Annual family trips by car to Montana & Dakota included reunions in the Bear's Paw Mountains, hi-balling on the Iron Road, the old Great Northern Railway and running brave with Chippewa, Cree, Blackfoot and Sioux Indian friends. The Goggins' adventured on two-month road trips to Baja and the Pacific Coast of Mexico where mother Ute painted, and sisters Cathy & Aimee followed in Bill's energetic footsteps. Billy toiled in family vineyards in Germany with equally embracing relatives. These things were the soul of his education.

Over the years Bill played soccer, drew cartoons, tutored younger students from Mill Valley and Marin City, played volleyball at Stinson Beach, surfed in Bolinas, and much much more. He graduated from Tamalpais High School as a National Merit Scholar and Salutatorian.

Summer jobs were at Bancroft-Whitney legal publishers, San Francisco and Wausau Paper Mill, Wisconsin. He worked at numerous restaurants including the Book Depot Cafe and Avenue Grill in Mill Valley, and Embarko in San Francisco. He also volunteered at St. Anthony Dining Room in the Tenderloin, providing free meals for the homeless.

Bill attended Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and San Francisco State University, Departments of Communication and Philosophy. He began his vital journalism career with Frisko Kids, KALW radio, and then moved on to the old SF Weekly.

Former SF Weekly editor and colleague Andrew O'Hehir remembers, "Of course he worked harder than anyone and became essential, and in three years moved from all-purpose intern to copy editor to running the Arts & Entertainment section. I can't remember exactly when he became the go-to guy for headline copy, but I'd say that by the time he'd been there a year, he was writing half the heads in the paper."

Bill thrived at Wired for 10 years. He started as a freelance copy editor and rose to become deputy editor. Bill served as a special link between the digital industry's pace-setting magazine in the center of San Francisco's media gulch and an eager, educated national and international readership. His colleagues admired him tremendously.

"Bill was that rarest of things: a true original," says Chris Anderson, the magazine's editor in chief. "He was brilliant, witty and culturally omnivorous, all of which combined in his signature headlines. They usually worked on at least three levels of meaning, from some remixed cultural reference to at least one pun. In many ways his winking style and clever turns of phrase became Wired house style for nearly a decade, and to look at our covers and headlines over those years is to hear Bill's voice again."

Bill's voice also made its mark through the alternative dot-com generation's website Suck.com where he wrote under the name 'Bartelby'. Bill recently enjoyed writing and editing with the new magazine *Todo*, and they remember him not just as a logophile, a wordsmith, a gifted editor, a true friend; but also as "one who tirelessly pursues perfection, fraternity and goodness."

A real linguist (German, Spanish and Bill-English) and traveler—Bill visited Tunisia, the Philippines, Bahamas, Mexico, Canada, and all over the United States and Europe. He was a dual citizen of the U.S. and Ireland. Bill was a citizen of the world.

Bill was a San Franciscan through and through. He openly embraced and explored all of the city's neighborhoods. He was an avid supporter of the arts, with active memberships to many museums and regular attendance at the symphony, opera, ballet, varied theatres and clubs.

Bill participated with his family and compatriots in the antiwar demonstrations from the Vietnam era to Iraq of today.

My daughter, Amy Critchett, had the good fortune to be a friend with and to work with Bill at *Wired* for many years. "Bill Goggins made work seem like work—because it was and he was so incredibly good at what he did—but with him around there was always a twist of irony and a splash of curly-haired, smiling-cheeked sunshine not far away," according to Amy. "Get ready to laugh all you up there."

Bill inexplicably collapsed and passed away suddenly during mile 24 of the San Francisco Marathon Benefit for Cancer on Sunday, July 30, 2006. He was in fit condition and many knew him as a wonderful, companionable runner, reconciled, strong and happy.

An outpouring of hundreds from around the globe, representing family, friends, colleagues, public officials on local, state and national levels, ambassadors, the Irish and British governments, the Democratic party, and diverse cultural non-profit organizations attended a memorial mass held at our Lady of Mount Carmel Church and a life celebration at the Outdoor Art Club in Mill Valley on August 4, 2006. Billy was a deeply-loved member of a very close family. He supported all of them individually and together—helping hang his mother Ute's art shows, assisting his father Pat with community outreach via organizations such as the Irish Forum, Irish Mexican Association, and Irish Literary and Historical Society to name a few, being the proud uncle to sister Cathy's two children, Lina Rose and Dominic Chester, and showing up for sister Aimee's various work events or helping edit her writing.

Bill believed in justice, peace and humanity. He connected with people everywhere he went. No one and nothing escaped his keen eye and warm words. His sense of community was broad and all-encompassing. Bill was a man of grace. He chipped in for everyone.

He had old-fashioned manners, was a staunch listener and he gave of himself enormously. His roughish grin, sparkle in his eye and love of discussion and opinion will live on with us forever.

Mr. Speaker, Bill had enormous integrity and loyalty, and taught us all how to be total human beings. To be fearless, to be bold, to be true to yourself. To be both gracious and outspoken. To pursue what matters in life and cherish each other. Bill knew all of these things and helped us be them too. Bill lived his life and made all of us proud. He will be deeply missed by many.

#### INTRODUCING THE REMOTE MONITORING ACCESS ACT OF 2006

#### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, we in this country, unfortunately, don't always do what's good for us. The benefits of a regular check up are well known, but for one reason or another millions of Americans will only visit their physician when they think something is serious enough that they feel they have no choice.

I can only imagine how the reluctance to visit a doctor is exacerbated for the millions of people in the United States with chronic conditions—such as diabetes, congestive heart failure and arrhythmia—who need to see their physicians on a regular basis. The situation is even worse for seniors who have difficulties moving around or lack the means or resources to make frequent trips to the doctor.

Government statistics show that maintaining mobility is a serious challenge for many seniors: Over 20 percent of people 65 and older have difficulty going outside the home; approximately 17 percent of men and 28 percent of women find it very difficult or are unable to walk just three city blocks; every 10 years after reaching the age of 65 the odds of losing mobility double.

People who live in rural areas can face serious health care consequences because of the lack of easily accessible services. One out of every five Americans lives in rural areas; however, only one out of every 10 physicians practices in rural areas. Forty percent of our rural population lives in a medically underserved area, with access to care an average of 30 miles away.

I'm proud to stand here as a lead sponsor of the Remote Monitoring Access Act of 2006 because I believe this legislation will promote technologies that have the potential to transform how health care providers and their patients—particularly seniors with chronic conditions—communicate and manage their conditions.

Remote monitoring technologies collect, analyze and transmit vital patient information to health care providers hundreds of miles away, allowing physicians to manage a patient's condition in a more consistent and real-time fashion. This technology can not only improve the quality of care given to patients, it also reduces the need for frequent visits to the doctor's office, costly emergency room visits, and unnecessary hospitalizations.

Remote monitoring technologies allow patients to be in constant contact with their doc-

tors without leaving the comfort of their homes. For seniors who find travel difficult or hard to afford, this will provide welcome relief. Beyond improving quality of life, remote monitoring technologies also improve quality of care, as physicians will be able to more closely monitor their patients and, by receiving more up-to-date information, detect and treat their patients' conditions earlier.

Remote monitoring technologies will bring 21st century health care to every individual regardless of their location, mobility, or age. The expertise of physicians and specialists and the resources of health care institutions will no longer be limited by geographic location but can be harnessed to help many more patients.

Currently, Medicare payments are primarily provided for face-to-face meetings between physicians and patients. The current system offers no incentives for physicians to adopt remote monitoring technologies even though they may provide better clinical information and save physicians time.

In addition, the payments often do not pay for the clinician time involved in non-face-to-face interactions that are necessary for interpreting and responding to data received via remote monitoring technologies.

Consequently, the Medicare payments may not adequately reflect the value of patient management services involving remote monitoring technologies.

The Remote Monitoring Access Act of 2006 will fix this gap in the Medicare payment system. This bipartisan legislation would provide reimbursement under the Medicare physician fee schedule for remote patient management services used to manage specific medical conditions such as diabetes, cardiac arrhythmia, congestive heart failure and sleep apnea, as well as any other condition the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines appropriate.

This bill also requires the HHS Secretary to develop standards of care and quality for the remote management services provided for each medical condition covered.

Cardiac arrhythmia, or abnormal heart rhythm, is just one of the chronic conditions that can be better managed through remote monitoring technologies. Cardiac arrhythmias affect more than five million people nationwide, and result in more than 1.2 million hospitalizations and 400,000 deaths each year in the United States. Atrial fibrillation, the most common form of cardiac arrhythmia, is also a leading indicator of stroke, with about 15 percent (or 105,000) of strokes occurring in people with atrial fibrillation.

The Remote Patient Monitoring Act will promote greater adoption and use of remote monitoring technologies so that patients suffering from cardiac arrhythmias, with their physicians, will be able to better manage this chronic condition.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Representative ESHOO, Representative HAYWORTH, and Representative TANNER, for joining with me to support this important legislation. I look forward to working with other Members of the House to ensure passage of this measure which will help millions of patients in the United States have better access to the latest medical technology and information.

REMEMBERING THE HEROES  
OF 9-11

**HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001 remains a day of both indescribable tragedy and awe-inspiring heroism in our Nation's mind. We mourn for the victims of the terrorist attacks that day, and keep their families in our prayers. But we also remember the heroism displayed by so many.

No one will forget, not ever, the courage seen on 9-11. Courage seen in the actions of firefighters and police officers, Pentagon employees, and everyday citizens. Courage seen by the choices these heroes made—to rush to the aid of others, to enter into burning buildings, to resist the hijackers of Flight 93. Many who work in the Capitol Building, both Members of Congress and staff, remember well that this symbol of democracy was most likely a target too—a target avoided only because of the heroes of Flight 93. We owe these heroes more than words can provide. We owe all these heroes more than words can provide.

We are fortunate that five years have passed without another terrorist strike on our own soil. We owe this to all those on the front lines of the War on Terror—in the military, law enforcement, and intelligence agencies. We should remember them, and their service, on this day too. We should ensure they are well-equipped, have the tools needed for their mission, and are properly recognized. They stand on the line for us—on behalf of life and hope, against an ideology that embraces death and hate.

The heroism of 9-11 is now part of what Lincoln called “the mystic chords of memory.” As time passes, the partisan disagreements of our day will fade into obscurity. But the heroism seen on 9-11 will not. Future generations of Americans, committed to the promise of a better world, united by the sacrifices of previous generations, will remember the heroes of September 11.

TRIBUTE TO DR. J. KENT MARLOR  
OF REXBURG, IDAHO

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. J. Kent Marlor of Rexburg, Idaho. On August 24, 2006, Dr. Marlor retired from a 43 year career as a professor of Political Science at Ricks College and later Brigham Young University—Idaho.

Throughout his career, Dr. Marlor has proven himself to be a significant member of the academic community. His contributions have included detailed and important research and publications regarding the government's role in wildlife and public land management. Just as important as his intellectual contributions, Dr. Marlor has greatly contributed to the future of his students. He has been an advisor, guide, and most importantly a friend to countless students pursuing their educations. Due to Dr. Marlor's tireless concern for his students'

wellbeing, many of them have gone on to a variety of successful careers in government, law, and education. In fact, several of his former students have been employed here on Capitol Hill and in other branches and departments of the government.

Dr. Marlor has positively contributed to the youth of Idaho not only through his teaching career, but also through his dedicated service in the Boy Scouts of America. For twenty-five years Dr. Marlor, an Eagle Scout himself, has selflessly served as a scoutmaster and on several scouting committees. For his devoted service, he has been awarded the prestigious Silver Beaver Award by the Boy Scouts of America.

Dr. Marlor's contributions have extended to Idaho's great natural environment as well. He has been a lifelong outdoor enthusiast and for many years has selflessly donated his time and efforts to conservation and wildlife management in Idaho. Dr. Marlor has served as a chairman on the Idaho Wildlife Council, the Idaho Fish and Game Advisory Committee, and he is currently the president of the Idaho Wildlife Federation. Due to his leadership in this field, Idahoans for generations to come can be ensured a continuation of Idaho's rugged outdoor legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have such a distinguished and dedicated constituent residing within Idaho's 2nd Congressional District. It is dedicated educators and volunteers like Dr. Marlor that ensure the continued success of our great nation. His contributions have been immeasurable. Men like Dr. Marlor rarely rest, and I am certain he will continue to positively contribute to Idaho and the Nation in his retirement.

WELCOME TO PRESIDENT ROH  
MOO-HYUN OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
KOREA

**HON. HENRY J. HYDE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, President Roh Moo-hyun of the Republic of Korea is scheduled to visit the United States from September 12-15, 2006, for a summit meeting with President George W. Bush. After meetings in Washington with President Bush and Members of the Congressional Leadership, President Roh will travel to San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, recently I had the privilege of visiting South Korea and meeting with President Roh and other Korean officials, as well as with U.S. soldiers and members of the diplomatic community. The Korean people treated us with a warmth and hospitality, for which I am deeply grateful.

While in South Korea, I had an opportunity to lay a wreath in tribute to GEN Douglas MacArthur at his statue at Incheon harbor. The statue was erected by the citizens of the city of Incheon to commemorate the General's vital leadership during the Korean war, including his implementation of the daring landing at Incheon in the darkest days of the Korean war. In his farewell address before this Congress in 1951, General MacArthur said:

“Of the nations of the world, Korea alone, up to now, is the sole one which has risked its

all against communism. The magnificence of the courage and fortitude of the Korean people defies description. They have chosen to risk death rather than slavery.”

Korea and the United States have been allies and friends for more than half a century. Our economic ties are strong. With a per capita income of \$14,162, South Korea is the world's eleventh-largest economy and the seventh largest trading partner of the United States, with a trade volume amounting to over \$72 billion each year. The United States and South Korea are currently engaged in negotiations that will lead to a U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, which will further solidify and expand U.S.-Korean economic ties.

With a population of well over 1 million, the Korean-American community has become, in the past century, a vital and important part of the American mosaic. The greater Los Angeles area, with its vibrant Korean-American community, is now one of the world's centers of Korean culture. But Korean-Americans are not only found in California. From Hawaii, east to New York, and from Alaska down to Florida, Korean-Americans are making a critical contribution to the United States in such diverse fields as medicine, education, science, engineering, martial arts, small business enterprises, entrepreneurship, music and the fine arts. America has been enriched by the Korean-American community's many contributions, and its existence has bonded us even closer to the Korean peninsula across the Pacific.

It should come as no surprise, then, that the United States is also a popular destination for travelers from South Korea, whether they are coming here to visit their family members who have become part of the American community, attending U.S. colleges and universities, or meeting with business colleagues in the pursuit of greater trade and investment.

The U.S. consular section at our Embassy in Seoul is the busiest non-immigrant visa issuing post in the world, processing between 1,800 and 2,000 visa applications each day. It is clear that South Koreans want to visit the United States, and they have good reasons for doing so.

There are currently efforts underway to bring South Korea under the umbrella of the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, which already applies to 27 other countries, including the United Kingdom, France, Canada, and Japan. This program, established in 1986 with the objective of promoting better relations with U.S. allies, also eliminates unnecessary barriers to travel, stimulates the tourism industry, and permits the U.S. Department of State to focus consular resources in other areas.

The South Korean government has made it clear that it intends to meet all of the statutory and regulatory requirements of the Visa Waiver Program. Seoul is working with the Departments of Homeland Security, Justice, and State in a diligent fashion to make sure that relevant South Korean governmental agencies have implemented the most up-to-date passport controls, using biometric and other technologies to prevent fraud and abuse. Mr. Speaker, I am almost certain that the Republic of Korea's entry into the Visa Waiver Program will be one of the topics discussed by President Roh and President Bush during their summit meeting this month.

There are, of course, other issues that certainly will be discussed at the White House by



President Bush and President Roh, including the free trade negotiations, North Korean nuclear weapons development, and South Korea's active participation in the global War on Terrorism and its contributions to the war effort in Iraq. The United States and South Korea have enjoyed a long and productive alliance, which, based on blood ties forged in the Korean War, will deepen into the indefinite future.

The frequent meetings of U.S. and Korean leaders are a clear manifestation of the close relationship shared by our two countries. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to welcome the President of the Republic of Korea, Roh Moo-hyun, to the United States as he visits Washington, D.C. and the Golden State of California. I invite all Members of the House to join me in offering President Roh our best wishes and hospitality as he visits our Nation's Capital.

#### CONGRATULATING THE ST. PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the St. Paul Public Schools on their 150th anniversary. On the first day of this school year, more than 41,000 kindergarten through 12th graders entered one of the doors of the more than 70 schools staffed by more than 6,500 teachers and personnel in the St. Paul Public Schools. This school year marks 150 years of the district's commitment to educating the families of St. Paul and creating public spaces for civic and community engagement.

St. Paul Public Schools have a proud history. Harriet Bishop, originally a teacher in Vermont, traveled to St. Paul in the late 1840s and is credited with starting the first public school in St. Paul. It was in 1856 that a school district was formed in St. Paul in order to attract settlers and to educate the frontier children. Even before Minnesota was admitted into the Union as a State, the people understood the importance of education.

Over the past 150 years, the St. Paul Public Schools have created a "world of opportunities" for their students, teachers, staff, and community members. And the world has also come to St. Paul Public Schools. More than 80 native languages are spoken in its classrooms. And each year, St. Paul elementary, middle, and high schools welcome a more diverse student body. And, this school year, the St. Paul Public Schools' Language Academies will teach English to 1,650 new Americans.

As good stewards of public resources, St. Paul Public Schools are an integral part of our neighborhoods. They provide safe spaces for our children and youth to grow and learn where teachers and staff offer an enriched environment for students to develop into healthy, contributing adults. St. Paul Public Schools also provide the needed public community spaces to support a strong and engaged citizenry that is needed to support a strong democracy.

In honor of the students, parents, families, and St. Paul Public Schools teachers and

staff, I submit this statement for the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I look forward to continued celebrations of success and milestones in the education of the people of St. Paul.

#### A SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF BACHMAN'S BATTERY VETERAN'S FUNERAL DETAIL VOLUNTEERS

**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a group of South Carolinians who, for 10 years, have provided burial honors details through the South Carolina Military Department's Caisson Detachment for those killed in the line of duty, whether a member of the police, military, or civil service. How blessed our State and community are to have Steve Riggs, its founder, Jim Kenney, and their Bachman's Battery volunteers, gathered from far and wide, to provide this special service. For those who may not be familiar with the detachment's namesake, Bachman's Battery, in the War Between the States, Captain William K. Bachman commanded South Carolina's German Artillery, Battery B, part of the incomparable Hampton Legion. It came to be known as Bachman's Battery. Captain Bachman was the son of the prominent pastor of Charleston's St John's Lutheran Church, Dr. John Bachman. The Rev. Dr. Bachman, born in New York, was also a scientist and an associate of naturalist John James Audubon. His sisters were both married to Audubon's sons and his father has several species of birds named for him. To all of the Bachman Battery volunteers, thank you for your continued service in final tribute to the families of those who served.

Bachman's Battery—Veterans' Funeral Detail Volunteers List: Stephen R. Riggs, Eric Klatt, John Shuler, James A. Kenney, Lindsey E. Riggs, James Andrews, Archie D. Willis III, Theodore Phillips, Mark Shambley, Keith Purdy, Jay Ford, Mark D. Herron,

Jim Shelby, Jr., David M. Riggs, A.C. Fiveashe, W. Thomas Shealy, Kevin Shiflet, E.G. Sturgis, Michael Lussier, James J. Walker, Jr., John T. McNeill, Stephen M. Riggs, Richard Hippey.

#### TRIBUTE TO MONROE SWEETLAND

**HON. DARLENE HOOLEY**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man, Monroe Sweetland. A political renaissance man who positively affected the lives of generations of Oregon students through his commitment to higher education.

A native of Salem, Oregon, Mr. Sweetland was a walking history book of Oregon and national politics. A former Oregon legislator, newspaper publisher, and education advocate, he counted among his friends many illustrious members of the national Democratic Party, including Eleanor Roosevelt, Harry Truman, John F. Kennedy, and Hubert Humphrey.

Despite the accolades and attention, Mr. Sweetland always considered the work that he did in the field of education to be his most important.

Through his efforts Portland State University was transformed from a struggling city college into a full-fledged urban university, thereby giving countless students the opportunity to study at a first-class institution.

In the mid 1960s Mr. Sweetland's career shifted beyond Oregon and he became the National Education Association's political director for 13 western States. It was in this capacity that he initiated what became the Bilingual Education Act of 1968, which provided Federal money to encourage school districts to try approaches such as teaching English as a second language.

His work at the NEA merely exemplified the compassion that he felt for all people, regardless of skin color. He was a vocal critic of the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and is credited with helping build support for a civil rights bill passed by the Oregon Legislature in 1953, after 17 civil rights bills had been unsuccessful.

I know that I am joined by my fellow Oregonians, and many others across the country, when I express my deepest condolences to Monroe Sweetland's family for their loss.

Oregon has lost one of its greatest citizens, a person whose influence will continue to be felt for years to come, and we, as a State, are greater for his presence and lesser for his passing.

#### ADMINISTRATION STEM CELL VETO: "ASSAULT ON SCIENCE"

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring my colleagues' attention to the editorial entitled "Assault on Science," which was published on July 21, 2006 in the Baytown Sun. The editorial, which calls the President's veto of legislation to expand Federal embryonic stem cell research "a blow against scientific progress and human health," mirrors the views of more than 70 percent of the American public who support expanded embryonic stem cell research. I encourage each of my colleagues to read this well-written piece and ask unanimous consent that a copy of it be placed in the RECORD.

[From the Baytown Sun, July 21, 2006]

ASSAULT ON SCIENCE

(By David Bloom)

President Bush used his first veto Wednesday to block a bill that would have lifted some federal restrictions on funding for stem cell research that most Americans support.

In vetoing the bill, Bush made good on a promise he made in 2001 to limit federally funded embryonic research to the stem cell lines that had been created by the time. He also landed quite a blow against scientific progress and human health.

Bush and other opponents of embryonic stem cell research claim that their position is rooted in a respect for human life. They say that the embryos destroyed in the process of extracting stem cells are human beings with a right to life.

In truth, clinics destroy thousands upon thousands of embryos every year, the leftovers of the in-vitro fertilization process.



The bill would have allowed federal funding only for stem cell lines made from embryos headed for destruction, not adoption. Thus, no lives will be saved by the president's veto.

Further, embryos used in embryonic stem cell research are not human beings—not in any rational sense of the term. These embryos are smaller than a grain of sand, and consist of at most a few hundred undifferentiated cells.

While they have the potential to become human beings—if implanted in a woman's uterus and brought to term—they are nowhere near actual human beings.

No one knows for certain all that can be helped by stem cells. Most scientists believe they hold extraordinary healing powers and may aid everything from brain function impaired by Alzheimer's and Parkinson's to pancreas function limited by diabetes and heart function after a heart attack.

It is revealing that Bush has used his first veto to oppose potentially life-saving research to shore up his support among people who regard destruction of an embryo as abortion.

Anyone who truly cares about human life should condemn this religious assault on medical progress.

Granted, it's difficult to balance the moral, ethical and economic considerations in life sciences research. Elected officials must set policy that is flexible but consistent with historic national values.

But in this case, the president's beliefs and his aim for better poll numbers are preventing research that offers hope to many ailing people.

#### HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRENCH VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 60th anniversary of the French Village Fire Department located in St. Clair County, Illinois.

In 1946, residents in the Dutch Hollow and French Village neighborhoods took action to provide fire protection for their communities by forming the French Village Fire Department. Initial funding for this new department came from bake sales and raffles, but they were able to purchase a fire engine from Towers Fire Apparatus in nearby Freeburg, Illinois. The first firehouse was located on a resident's property off Rural Route 5, which is now 2nd Avenue in Fairview Heights.

Raising funds for the department was a struggle during the early years in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Picnics, dances and fish fries were some of the fund-raising activities that were required to keep the department operational. Through an election in 1953, the French Village Fire District was formed. This provided tax revenue so that the fire department could begin to plan for equipment, supplies, and ongoing operations.

In addition to growth in residential property, the early years were also marked by tragedy. In 1952, firemen Frank Robinson and Francis Johnson, Jr., lost their lives when their fire truck was struck while en route to a call. In 1954, another firefighter, Paul Hodson, suffered a fatal heart attack while fighting a vehicle fire. This second tragedy provided the

stimulus for the department to provide better emergency care.

The next decades saw continued growth for the French Village Fire Department. Additional trucks and advanced equipment were added to keep pace with the growing population as well as the new advances in technology.

In the 1980s an effort at the ballot to disband the department was defeated and a bond issue was passed to replace aging equipment and build a second fire station. The 1990s saw the opening of the new station and the department's 50th anniversary. In the new century, the French Village Fire Department continued to expand and improve with the addition of a 75-ft. aerial ladder.

The French Village Fire Department has been a shining example of dedication and professionalism, made possible by the sacrifices that their firefighters and their families have made since 1946. Their compassion, valor, and unselfish acts of courage make each of them an everyday hero.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 60th anniversary of the French Village Fire Department and to wish the best to them for continued service in the future.

#### PENSION PROTECTION ACT

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, last month President Bush signed into law the so-called Pension Protection Act. I opposed this legislation because it fails to address America's retirement security crisis—in fact, it accelerates the move away from defined-benefit pension plans and it makes it easier for companies to eliminate pensions or dump their obligations onto the backs of taxpayers. It also treats the pensions of CEOs and top executives as more sacred than those of workers.

The Federal Government should ensure that, after 30 years of service, workers will receive the pensions that they have been promised and that they have earned. Unfortunately, this bill does not live up to that responsibility. I opposed this legislation when it originally passed the House, and I had hoped that its shortcomings would be addressed in conference. I am disappointed that Democrats were excluded from the conference committee. This exclusion was a disservice to all American workers who will not benefit from their knowledge and experience in the subject.

Unfortunately, the shortcomings of the House bill were not addressed in conference. Far from protecting pensions for American workers, this legislation will allow companies to under-fund plans by simply promising to increase the contributions in future years. As the financial obligations on these companies grow, however, they will likely freeze or terminate pension plans, as they no longer make business sense to continue.

Some provisions blatantly discriminate against workers in favor of executives. The legislation allows plans that are only 60 percent funded to continue increasing the lavish benefits that executives enjoy. However, a plan must be 80 percent funded before employees can get any additional assistance. It is fundamentally unfair to hold these two groups to two different standards.

Most troubling to me is how American workers and retirees are increasingly being told, "You are on your own." As President Bush continues to advocate privatization of Social Security, and more and more companies convert their defined-benefit pensions to defined-contribution plans, retirees are having the rug pulled from under their feet. We have failed to apply the lesson that broad-based economic security facilitates sustainable growth, innovation, and productivity.

America's employees deserve retirement security. President Bush should have signed a bill that would protect employees, discourage companies from freezing or terminating their plans, address the financial shortfall at the Federal Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation, and treat all employees equally.

Although the "Pension Protection Act" is now law, our commitment to employees who are so integral to our economy is not fulfilled. As we come off of Labor Day, I urge this body to assure the financial security of American employees through policies that achieve economic growth that is broad-based, not concentrated at the top of the income ladder.

#### NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2006*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5539, the North American Wetlands Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2006. I would also like to thank Chairman POMBO and Ranking Member RAHALL for all their hard work and for ensuring swift consideration of this important legislation.

As a wildlife enthusiast, conservationist, and member of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, I am a strong supporter of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). For that reason, I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 5539.

As this body knows, NAWCA is a unique public-private, partnership-based program that leverage non-federal funds to protect, restore and manage wetland habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife. Since it was signed into law in 1989, NAWCA grants have spurred more than 2,000 partners to work on more than 1,100 projects, restoring nearly 23 million acres of wetlands in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

In addition, NAWCA provides an excellent return on a relatively modest federal investment. Over the years, the act has provided approximately \$720 million in grant funds which have been matched by approximately \$2.1 billion in partner funds.

Again, I thank the distinguished chairman of the Resources Committee for introducing this important legislation and look forward to continuing to work with him, Ranking Member RAHALL, members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus on this extremely successful program.

TRIBUTE TO CHLOE JANE SWEET

**HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. McCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the birth of Chloe Jane Sweet. Chloe was born on September 3, 2006 to her very proud parents and my good friends, Julie and Chad.

There is no accomplishment or gift greater in life than the birth of a son or daughter. As the father of five wonderful children who are the light of my life, I know how happy and fulfilled Julie and Chad are to have a healthy and beautiful newborn baby daughter.

It is my hope, and the hope of all of their friends and family, that they continue to be blessed with the great fortune they have enjoyed in the birth of Chloe Jane.

Linda, my children and I wish them all the best as Julie and Chad begin their lives as Chloe's parents, and as Chloe begins her life as their daughter.

RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING NATIONAL MEMORIAL AT WORLD TRADE CENTER SITE TO COMMEMORATE AND MOURN EVENTS OF FEBRUARY 26, 1993, AND SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2006*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, the terrorist attacks of 9/11 left voids in our lives that can never be filled. Almost 3,000 families lost a loved one—sons, daughters, fathers and mothers who were taken too soon. New York City, my hometown, lost beloved residents, protectors and leaders. Our city, and our country, also lost an icon and symbol of our nation—the World Trade Center.

The hole where the World Trade Center once stood remains a somber reminder of those we lost and the heartache 9/11 has caused. Lower Manhattan and Ground Zero are being redeveloped in order to keep our city's economy strong and show our resilience and resolve. At the same time, the footprints of the Twin Towers have been preserved and designated for a permanent 9/11 memorial.

The men and women we lost on 9/11 must be honored with a poignant and thoughtful memorial. The one that is being developed is exactly that.

We must support the World Trade Center Memorial Foundation as it constructs the tribute to our fallen friends and neighbors. While we can never refill the voids left on 9/11, we can keep their memories alive forever.

When the work is completed and the memorial is opened, we will have an ever-lasting site to remember 9/11 and those who we lost. This is the way it should be—we must never forget.

IN HONOR OF THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

**HON. JIM MATHESON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2001*

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, this anniversary is first, last, and always, a day of remembrance. The shock and horror of that day has diminished. But the sorrow and sadness is still present in our hearts. The mountains of debris are gone from the place where the towers of the World Trade Center once defined the skyline. But Ground Zero and a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, are burial grounds still, where grief is palpable. Two Utahns were aboard one of the hijacked planes that struck the first Tower; another Utahn died at his job in the Pentagon when a third jet crashed into it. People from many other countries also died that morning. In the hours and days following the tragedy, it seemed that much of the world mourned.

The passing days brought much heartache and—ever so gradually—glimmers of hope. The heroes of 9/11—members of the New York and Port Authority police departments, and the New York City Firefighters—replaced the frightening images of the hijackers. From across this country, ordinary people put comfortable lives on hold in order to join the rescue and recovery effort. Twenty people were pulled alive from the debris. For a time, all Americans put aside their differences and united in the desire to make life better for the survivors.

The families and friends of the victims of 9/11 will always—in the words of poet ee cummings “carry your heart (I carry it in my heart).” For the rest of us, a fitting tribute to their memory may be to renew our desire to put aside contention and partisanship. We honor them when we adopt their “can-do” spirit and strive—as one nation—to make America the beacon of hope it has always been.

**HONORING MARY ELLEN MENAPACE****HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mary Ellen Menapace, who was chosen “New Mexico's Outstanding Older Worker of 2006.” At the young age of 87, she continues to work and is currently the deputy village clerk of the village of Roy, located in eastern New Mexico, serving the residents with great honor, pride and distinction.

With only a few years' exception, Mrs. Menapace has worked continually since she was a high school student. She was only 17 when she began her first full-time job. Beginning in 1934, Mrs. Menapace's positions have been many and varied, including employment for the New Mexico State Health and Welfare Department, an abstract company, the Selective Service System during World War II and as a deputy county and court clerk, payroll clerk, secretary and an office manager. She proudly states that the key to her professional

longevity and success has been the enjoyment she experienced in each and every job, and the total dedication she always gave during her many years of employment.

Noting all the advancements that have transpired in the workplace since high school, Mrs. Menapace's early years involved the use of a manual typewriter rather than a computer, carbon paper instead of a copier, and Gregg shorthand instead of e-mail. As the years passed, she committed to being the best she could be in every position she ever held. In order to accomplish that goal, and as office work became more technically advanced, Mrs. Menapace diligently took advantage of all training provided in order to enhance her knowledge and to improve her skills.

Mrs. Menapace could have completely retired at many junctures but instead chose to continue contributing to the betterment of her community. Her current position requires that she locate resources to fund village projects. One particular example of her success was securing grants to purchase trees and flowers to landscape both the main street and village park of Roy as part of the “Keep New Mexico Beautiful” State program. Another accomplishment was securing funds to purchase 75 trees that were planted to shield and shelter Roy's solid waste station.

Mary Ellen Menapace is truly a most remarkable lady. She helped support her parents and siblings during the Great Depression, was the sole provider for her own family during her husband's long illness and subsequent death, and is, herself, a cancer survivor. A devoted grandmother, she takes great pride and gratification that her later employment enabled her to raise and educate a grandson as well as assist a granddaughter-in-law in finishing law school. With all these responsibilities, Mrs. Menapace has somehow managed to be active in her community, in civic and professional organizations, and in her church. Another amazing talent is writing award-winning poetry and short stories, a gift she inherited from her father, who, she proudly proclaims, was also an agriculture and veterinary science visionary.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request that all my colleagues join me in giving tribute to Mary Ellen Menapace. She is an invaluable employee, a loving family member, a devoted member of her community, an exceptional New Mexican, and an honored American.

**A TRIBUTE TO DR. JESUS M. SIERRA****HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Jesus M. Sierra, beloved husband of Catherine. M. Mass Sierra for 24 years, loving father of Jesus M. Sierra Jr., Abraham Sierra, Marta I. Sierra, Janina E. Sierra, Nicholas Sierra, and Adam Eric, and caring grandfather of 11, who passed away on Sunday August 13, 2006.

Dr. Sierra was the founder and former Executive Director of the Asociacion Puertorriquenos en Marcha (APM). A tireless advocate of Latino rights, his contribution to his dearly loved Puerto Rican community cannot be measured. His deep belief in the provision of critical needs: health, human services,

and housing drove his work with the APM. Jesus was a pioneer in his efforts to help Philadelphia's poorest citizens advocating the use of economic development tools to fight racism, create equal opportunity for Latinos, and to generate change.

His founding of the APM is an accomplishment that will continue to have a positive impact into the future. Jesus headed this organization for 33 years and his indefatigable labors in building it from a two person office on Germantown Avenue to the largest non-profit development corporation in Pennsylvania is to be admired. His work directly saved countless lives and his contribution will continue to provide hope to thousands more. In tribute to a wonderful father, husband, and pillar of the Puerto Rican Community, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to honor him and all of his accomplishments.

THE LOSS OF SGT. MOISES  
JAZMIN

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave soldier in Iraq, Sergeant Moises Jazmin, a Rhode Island resident who served his country with dignity and honor. I join his family and the people of Rhode Island in mourning this great loss.

Sergeant Jazmin grew up in Providence, RI, and attended Central High School until he enlisted in the Army at the age of 17. He is remembered as a committed and loving member of his tight-knit family.

Sergeant Jazmin was serving in Iraq in the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division. On Sunday, August 27, he was on patrol when an improvised explosive device detonated near their Bradley Fighting Vehicle. The blast killed him and three other soldiers in his unit.

This loss causes us to reflect on the bravery demonstrated by our men and women in uniform as they carry out their obligations in the face of danger. When Sergeant Jazmin's nation called him to duty, he answered without hesitation. We will remember him as a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Sergeant Jazmin is survived by his parents, Leon and Rosa, and many other friends and family members. May we keep his loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period. We will also continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.

JACK HARDIN DAY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of "Jack Hardin Day" which was cele-

brated in many towns in my District recently. No one is more deserving of this honor than the man for which the day was named—a man who has served southern West Virginia, both as a journalist and as a community activist, for more than 50 years.

Jack Hardin is an icon, an institution, to the people of Huntington, WV., and beyond. It was fitting then, that on Jack Hardin Day, also Jack's 80th birthday, the members of the community came together for a good-natured roasting of their favorite son. It is also fitting that the proceeds of this roast went to an important charity—the Hospitality House of Huntington. Jack wouldn't have had it any other way.

While I was unable to attend the roast of my friend Jack Hardin, I would have loved to have been there to hear the tales, the teasing and what I am sure was a good amount of praise for a man who has become a role model to so many.

Jack Hardin is a moral man, a family man, and southern West Virginia is lucky to have him. I thank Jack for his contributions to our area over the years and commend the community of Huntington and Jack's family for coming together to put together a celebration worthy of such a man.

May this be the first of many "Jack Hardin Days."

9/11 FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, this week we mark the fifth anniversary of the tragic and unprecedented events of September 11, 2001. On this fateful day, we lost not only thousands of our fellow citizens, but a piece of our innocence as well.

On behalf of my constituents of the 37th District of California, I affirm that we will not forget those who lost their lives on that dreadful day. We offer our heartfelt prayers to the families of the victims, and assure them that time has not dulled our deepest sympathies. We shall never fully recover from the loss of so many of our best and bravest and brightest.

This attack on our homeland showed us that great vigilance and effort are required to prevent terrorists from realizing their murderous aims. This important lesson was paid for dearly, and we owe it to all those who lost their lives to continue to work to protect our country from another attack.

In particular, I am acutely aware of the need to secure our Nation's ports, as my District is adjacent to the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles, which are among our Nation's busiest. Some 95 percent of American trade enters the U.S. through 1 of 361 seaports on board over 8,500 foreign vessels and makes more than 55,000 port calls per year, which total worth is nearly \$1 trillion. It is our duty to protect America's ports which remain highly vulnerable targets. In fact, over 52 percent of all waterborne cargo moves through the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles

alone. Securing these and the rest of America's ports as well as the economic contributions they make must remain a top priority for each of us.

As such, I am pleased that Congress is finally working on a bipartisan basis to address this gaping hole in our security. I am a proud supporter of the SAFE Port Act, which would appropriate a dedicated stream of port security funding. I look forward to continuing to work on this important issue with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle.

I appeal to all Members of Congress to work toward these goals in the spirit of unity that we felt so poignantly 5 years ago in the wake of the terrorist attacks. This is really the greatest honor we could offer the victims of that day.

THE LOSS OF LANCE CORPORAL  
ERIC VALDEPEÑAS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave Marine in Iraq, Lance Corporal Eric Valdepeñas, who served his country with dignity and honor. I join his family and the people of Rhode Island and Massachusetts in mourning this great loss.

Lance Corporal Valdepeñas, a resident of Seekonk, Massachusetts, was a graduate of Bishop Hendricken High School in Warwick, Rhode Island, my own alma mater. He was an honors student and co-captain of the school's championship lacrosse team. He is remembered by his teachers and classmates as having tremendous energy and an exceptional character. After high school, he attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and was pursuing an engineering degree when his Marine Reserve unit was called up in December 2005.

Lance Corporal Valdepeñas served with the 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division. He demonstrated the same commitment and positive attitude in Iraq that his family and friends knew well, and he earned numerous military awards, including the Purple Heart. On September 4, while on patrol in al Anbar province, an improvised explosive device detonated next to his vehicle, killing him and two other Marines.

This loss causes us to reflect on the bravery demonstrated by our men and women in uniform as they carry out their obligations in the face of danger. When Lance Corporal Valdepeñas's nation called him to duty, he answered without hesitation. We will remember him as a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

He is survived by his parents, Jesus and Ann-Marie, and seven siblings Marie Drury, Karen Ing, Nora Lough, and Teresa, Edna-Anne, Neil, and Sean Valdepeñas. They will remember his great love for his family, his loyalty and his kindness. May we keep them and other friends and family in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period. We will also continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.

A TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY J.  
STAGLIANO

### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my friend Anthony Stagliano's 50th year in America. Fifty years ago a 9-year-old Anthony said goodbye to his father in Naples, Italy and boarded a ship to the United States of America. Little Anthony came to America seeking a land of opportunity and found it in Philadelphia. Anthony quickly mastered the English language and went on to graduate from Bok Vocational High School.

Anthony is a devoted family man married to his beloved American beauty Joanne. They have been fortunate to be blessed with four children—Maria, Angela, Gina, and Anthony, Jr. who have each graduated from college.

Anthony Stagliano served his country in the United States Army from 1961–1963. He also took an interest in civic affairs, having served as a committee person for over 30 years. He was an exemplar Temple University Corrections officer, Philadelphia Housing Authority officer, and was on the Court tipstaff. He is currently serving the Philadelphia City Council as the Sergeant-at-Arms.

It is an honor to recognize a person who exemplifies the positive impact immigrants can have on the United States. Anthony's service to the City of Philadelphia, military service, and wonderful family are to be praised. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Anthony Stagliano for his 50 years of contribution to our country.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2006, I missed rollcall votes numbered 436 and 437. Rollcall vote 436 was on the motion to suspend the rules and pass as amended H.R. 5428, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 East Washington Street in Morris, Illinois, as the "Joshua A. Terando Morris Post Office Building." Rollcall vote 437 was on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 175, a bill to recognize the importance of establishing a national memorial at the World Trade Center site to commemorate and mourn the events of February 26, 1993, and September 11, 2001.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 436 and 437.

### HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROMOTION ACT (H.R. 4157)

### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of health information technology, which

holds great promise for reducing medical errors, lowering costs, expediting diagnoses and treatments, and facilitating quality care. However, I must oppose this legislation due to the complete lack of a mechanism for safeguarding patient privacy, opening up the dangerous possibility of identity theft or personal infringement.

Estimates vary as to the amount of money that health information technology will save our healthcare system, but it could surely be in the tens of billions of dollars. Making health information accessible electronically by health care providers with the proper clearance would improve the quality of care by getting providers to patients' medical history quickly and efficiently. This would reduce medical errors, increase patient satisfaction, and decrease the number of lawsuits.

Unfortunately, the bill that the House passed will not accomplish any of these goals. Providers do not have access to any funding assistance, which they will need to purchase health information technology. We should be making grants and loans available to physicians so that they can take advantage of the promise of health IT, realizing the promise of improved care.

A larger problem is that this bill will jeopardize the privacy of medical records. We have all seen the unconscionable and irresponsible loss of sensitive personal information by federal agencies like the Veterans Administration, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Department of Transportation. This loss of personal information is a breach of trust by the federal government. Passing this legislation without reasonable privacy safeguards will only put patients at greater risk.

We should be doing more to protect the patients' names, medical history, and financial information. Unfortunately, this legislation abdicates that responsibility. The Rules Committee even disallowed consideration of amendments to accomplish that reasonable and important goal. Whereas the Senate worked on a bipartisan basis to pass a comprehensive and responsible bill, the House has wasted an opportunity to improve healthcare and reduce costs for all Americans.

I support health information technology, and I believe in the promise that it holds. Unfortunately, I cannot support legislation that makes American patients more likely to have their personal information stolen and their privacy violated.

### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily

Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2006 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

#### SEPTEMBER 19

9:30 a.m.

#### Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of General Bantz J. Craddock, USA, for reappointment to be general and to be Commander, U.S. European Command, Vice Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN for appointment to be admiral and to be Commander, U.S. Southern Command, Nelson M. Ford, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, and Ronald J. James, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

SH-216

#### Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine understanding the financial and human impact of criminal activity relating to the cost of crime.

SD-226

10 a.m.

#### Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine combating child pornography by eliminating pornographers' access to the financial payment system.

SD-538

#### Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

#### Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine if terrorist cells are forming in U.S. cell blocks relating to prison radicalization.

SD-342

2 p.m.

#### Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine judicial nominations.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

#### Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine online child pornography.

SR-253

#### SEPTEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.

#### Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine U.S. international broadcasts into Iran, focusing on financial investment of the American taxpayer for international broadcasting into Iran, whether the appropriate management and accountability controls exist within U.S. international broadcasting, and whether the content of the broadcasts promote international security and U.S. foreign policy.

SD-342

- Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine preserving effective Federal law enforcement relating to reporters' privilege legislation.  
SD-226
- 10 a.m.  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings to examine S. 2322, to amend the Public Health Service Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly, S. 1531, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls, S. 3771, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act, S. 1325, to establish grants to provide health services for improved nutrition, increased physical activity, obesity and eating disorder prevention, H.R. 5074, to amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 to provide for continued payment of railroad retirement annuities by the Department of the Treasury, and the nominations of Randolph James Clerihue, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, Jane M. Doggett, of Montana, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities, Andrew von Eschenbach, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, Stephen Goldsmith, of Indiana, to be a Member of the Board of Directors, and Gerald Walpin, of New York, to be Inspector General, both of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Roger L. Hunt, of Nevada, John E. Kidde, of California, and John Peyton, of Florida, each to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation, Lauren M. Maddox, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Outreach, Department of Education, Eliza McFadden, of Florida, to be a Member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board, Sandra Pickett, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board, Arthur K. Reilly, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, Peter W. Tredick, of California, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board, nominations in the Public Health Service Corps, and other pending nominations.  
SD-430
- Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
Housing and Transportation Subcommittee  
Economic Policy Subcommittee  
To hold joint hearings to examine assessing non-traditional mortgage products.  
SD-538
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Trade, Tourism, and Economic Development Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the future of ICANN relating to Internet governance.  
SR-253
- Veterans' Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.  
SD-106
- 2 p.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine the proposal to restructure the Ninth Circuit.  
SD-226
- 2:30 p.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
To hold hearings to examine nominations.  
SR-253
- Environment and Public Works  
To hold hearings to examine approaches embodied in the Asia Pacific Partnership.  
SD-406
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine assessing Spiral 1.1 of the National Security Personnel System.  
SD-342
- 3:30 p.m.  
Intelligence  
To receive a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters.  
SH-219
- SEPTEMBER 21
- 10 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mary Amelia Bomar, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.  
SD-628
- 10:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Legislative Branch Subcommittee  
To resume hearings to examine progress of the Capitol Visitor Center construction.  
SD-138
- 2:30 p.m.  
Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings to examine intelligence matters.  
SH-219
- SEPTEMBER 26
- 3:15 p.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Foreign Relations  
To hold joint hearings to examine International polar year.  
SR-253
- SEPTEMBER 27
- 10 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine S. 3599, to establish the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument in the State of New Mexico, S. 3794, to provide for the implementation of the Owyhee Initiative Agreement, S. 3854, to designate certain land in the State of Oregon as wilderness, H.R. 3603, to promote the economic development and recreational use of National Forest System lands and other public lands in central Idaho, to designate the Boulder-White Cloud Management Area to ensure the continued management of certain National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands for recreational and grazing use and conservation and resource protection, to add certain National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands in central Idaho to the National Wilderness Preservation System, and H.R. 5025, to protect for future generations the recreational opportunities, forests, timber, clean water, wilderness and scenic values, and diverse habitat of Mount Hood National Forest, Oregon.  
SD-628
- SEPTEMBER 28
- 10 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Aviation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine new aircraft in the National Airspace System.  
SR-253